

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-34 (Cancelled)

35. (New) A process for producing anatase titania or a composite oxide containing the anatase titania which comprises forming a gel containing a metal oxide and an organic polymer from a solution containing a hydrolyzable titanium compound, and subsequently reacting this gel with water at a temperature of 100°C or below to elute said polymer from said gel and to produce the anatase titania or the composite oxide containing the anatase titania, wherein the weight ratio of the organic polymer to the anatase titania or to the composite oxide is from 0.1 to 10.

36. (New) The process according to claim 35 wherein the organic polymer is a water-soluble organic polymer.

37. (New) The process according to claim 35 wherein the hydrolyzable titanium compound is an alkoxide of titanium.

38. (New) The process according to claim 35 wherein reaction of the gel with water is carried out with hot water.

39. (New) The process according to claim 38 wherein a functional molecule or a metal ion is dissolved in the hot water, thereby to dope the anatase titania or the composite oxide containing the anatase titania with the functional molecule or metallic particles.

40. (New) The process according to claim 38 wherein a gel film is formed on a substrate and then is allowed to react with water to produce a film of controlled specific surface area and pore size

41. (New) The process according to claim 40 wherein a film of anatase titania is formed.

42. (New) The process according to claim 40 wherein a film of composite oxide is formed .

43. (New) The process according to claim 42 wherein a transparent film of the composite oxide is formed.

44. (New) The process according to claim 36 wherein the organic polymer is a polyalkyl ether.

45. (New) The process according to claim 44 wherein the polyalkyl ether is polyethylene glycol.

46. (New) The process according to claim 35 wherein the solvent is an organic solvent..